

From: Stuart
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/10/01 6:32pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement.

Dear Ms Hesse

Being a member of the open source movement. I find the proposed DOJ settlement with Microsoft both incomplete and dangerous. Most of my customers use SAMBA a product that emulates Microsoft LAN software. SAMBA is completely unprotected by this agreement from predatory practices we know will ensue from Microsoft. Why does this settlement only protect commercial entities? Microsoft is a monopoly which will continue to play 'hard ball' to protect it's turf against all comers.

If this settlement continues as read, I believe that the IT economy will suffer greatly from lack of innovation, fewer consumer options and even more Microsoft lock-in than exists currently.

I believe that if the settlement were to be just, Microsoft would be forced to open all standards they propose to competition from all comers. These standards would be available as they were developed enabling comment and a watchful eye to be cast by the wider IT community.

Your sincerely

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